

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CARACA 04005 282305Z
ACTION SS-15

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O 282219Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2116

S E C R E T CARACAS 4005

FOR S/S TARNOFF FROM AMBASSADOR VAKY

PASS ALSO TO ARA-TODMAN AND PM-GELB

EO 11652 GDS
TAGS: MARR VE MX
SUBJ: SECRETARY'S MEXICAN VISIT: ARMS RESTRAINT
TALKING POINTS

REF: VAKY-TARNOFF TELCON, APRIL 28

1. CLAPP, EINAUDI AND I BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT
PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO AND FOREIGN MINISTER ROEL BE
INFORMED OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT
PEREZ, OUR SUBSEQUENT SUCCESSFUL CONSULATIONS WITH HIM
(SEPTEL), AND PRESIDENT PEREZ' IMMEDIATE INTENTIONS.

2. I, THEREFORE, ASK THAT THE SECRETARY'S TALKING POINTS
FOR HIS VISIT TO MEXICO NEXT WEEK INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

3. BACKGROUND:

IT IS IMPERATIVE TO INFORM THE MEXICANS THAT THEY ARE NOT
THE ONLY ONES WITH WHOM WE ARE DISCUSSING THIS ISSUE AND
THAT WE HAVE HAD CONSULATIONS WITH VENEZUELA. WE HAVE
FOLLOWED UP PRESIDENT CARTER'S DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT
PEREZ BY DISCUSSING WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ HOW A LATIN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CARACA 04005 282305Z

AMERICAN REGIONAL RESTRAINT REGIME WOULD FIT INTO THE
SEARCH FOR GLOBAL CONVENTIONAL ARMS RESTRAINT. PRESIDENT
PEREZ HAS TOLD US THAT HE INTENDS TO CONTACT THE OTHER
SIGNATORIES OF THE DECLARATION OF AYACUCHO WITHIN THE
NEXT WEEK OR TWO IN HOPES OF CALLING A FOREIGN MINISTER
LEVEL MEETING OF THOSE STATES, POSSIBLY IN NEW YORK OR
CARACAS, TO COINCIDE WITH THE OPENING OF THE SSOD. WE

HAVE IN TURN TOLD PEREZ THAT WE WILL SUPPORT HIS EFFORTS BY PROVIDING SUCH TECHNICAL INFORMATION AND BACKGROUND PAPERS AS HE MAY DESIRE, AND BY DISCUSSING HIS CONCERNS WITH THE EUROPEAN SUPPLIERS AND THE SOVIET UNION. MEXICO IS NOT A SIGNATORY OF AYACUCHO, BUT HAS LONG BEEN A LEADER IN DISARMAMENT EFFORTS, HAVING BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO AND BEING ACTIVE IN THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE SSOD. THE MEXICANS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO SUPPORT THE REACTIVATION OF THE AYACUCHO PROPOSALS AND TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES OF EXTENDING THEM TO OTHER COUNTRIES WITHIN LATIN AMERICA AND SUPPORTING THEM WITHIN THE SSOD CONTEXT.

4. TALKING POINTS:

--WHEN I WAS IN CARACAS WITH PRESIDENT CARTER, WE DISCUSSED THE IMPORTANCE OF REGIONAL ARMS RESTRAINT MEASURES, AND WE AGREED TO COOPERATE IN FINDING WAYS TO PROMOTE ARMS RESTRAINT GENERALLY. WE HAVE SINCE HAD FURTHER CONVERSATIONS WITH THE VENEZUELANS, AND PRESIDENT PEREZ HAD INFORMED US THT HE INTENDS TO SEE WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE THE SIGNATORIES OF THE AYACUCHO DECLARATION MEET AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL APPROXIMATELY CONICIDENT WITH THE OPENING OF THE SSOD TO CONSIDER WAYS TO REVITALIZE THE COMMTIMENT.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 CARACA 04005 282305Z

-- WE HAVE TOLD PRESIDENT PEREZ THAT IE WOULD BE DISCUSSING SOME OF THESE ISSUES WITH YOU.

-- WE NEED YOUR HELP IF WE ARE TO OVERCOME INERTIA AND COMPETING INTERESTS AMONG OTHER SUPPLIERS.

-- WE HOPE MEXICO COULD CONSIDER WAYS TO SUPPORT THE AYACUCHO DECLARATION AND BROADEN GRADUALLY ITS APPLICABILITY ELSEWHERE IN THE REGION.

-- WE WOULD WELCOME ANY IDEAS YOU HAVE ON THIS SUBJECT AND WOULD BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE YOU WITH ANY INFORMATION OR BACKGROUND MATERIAL YOU MIGHT FIND USEFUL.

5. WE BELIEVE THAT THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CAN HELP THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESTRAINT AGREEMENTS AMONG THE SUPPLIERS BY ENTERING INTO REGIONAL ARMS RESTRAINT DISCUSSIONS AND URGING THE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES AT A MINIMUM TO DESIST FROM COMPEIO SELL ARMS.
VAKY

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